

THERE ARE DANGERS TO TETHERING

Improper tethering can lead to death, mistreatment, excessive barking and vicious temperment in an animal. That's why the City Council passed an ordinance on July 13, 2012, prohibiting all tethering of animals in Hampton.

The Council allowed a period of almost six months for pet owners to become familiar with and comply with this ordinance before enforcement begins.



Effective Jan. 1, 2013, it will be "unlawful to tether any companion animal whether or not the animal has been provided adequate space." Violation will be punishable as a class 4 misdemeanor.

Tethering is defined in the dictionary as "something (as a rope or chain) by which an animal is fastened so that it can range only within a set radius."



ALTERNATIVES?

Need an alternative to tethering? The Hampton Animal Control Division offers these suggestions:

Make your dog a house dog and take it for walks. The dog can be kept in a crate in the house when you can't keep an eye on it.

Consider doggy daycare at a local vet or kennel. The average cost in Hampton is \$9.00 to \$12.00 per day.

Consider an outside kennel or run. They come in a variety of types and sizes and can be installed by you or a contractor.

Consider fencing your yard. This lets your dog stay outside and gives it ample space for exercise.

Whatever choice you make, remember that under Virginia Code and City of Hampton Ordinance, you must meet certain basic requirements:

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR ANIMAL

Each owner shall provide for each of his companion animals:

- ✿ Adequate feed;
- ✿ Adequate water;
- ✿ Adequate shelter that is properly cleaned;
- ✿ Adequate space in the primary enclosure for the particular type of animal depending upon its age, size, species, and weight;
- ✿ Adequate exercise;
- ✿ Adequate care, treatment, and transportation; and
- ✿ Veterinary care when needed or to prevent suffering or disease transmission.

Adequate exercise: Means there must be room for the animal to move sufficiently to maintain normal muscle tone and mass for the age, species, size, and condition of the animal.

Adequate food: Means access to and the provision of food that is of sufficient quantity and quality to maintain each animal in good health. It must be prepared so as to permit ease of consumption for the age, condition, size and type of each animal; is provided in a clean and sanitary manner; is placed so as to minimize contamination. **(continued)**



Adequate shelter: Means provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; provides adequate space for each animal; is safe and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; is properly lighted; is properly cleaned; enables each animal to be clean and dry, and, provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floor mat, or similar device that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be maintained in a sanitary manner

Adequate space: Means sufficient space to allow each animal to (i) easily stand, sit, lie, turn about, and make all other normal body movements in a comfortable, normal position for the animal and (ii) interact safely with other animals in the enclosure.

Adequate water: Means provision of and access to clean, fresh, potable water of a drinkable temperature that is provided in a suitable manner, in sufficient volume, and at suitable intervals appropriate for the weather and temperature, to maintain normal hydration for the age, condition, size and type of each animal.

Adequate care: Means the responsible practice of good animal care and handling, confinement, feeding, watering, protection, shelter, treatment, and, when necessary, euthanasia, appropriate for the age, species, condition, size and type of the animal and the provision of veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or impairment of health.

Humane care and treatment: Shall include, but not be limited to, the protection of animals from direct sun rays in the summer and freezing cold in the winter and the maintenance of food and water bowls in a separate and clean manner. The bowls shall be sufficiently secured so that they cannot be easily overturned.

**For additional
information contact
Hampton Animal Control
at 727-2818**

**To report a violation call
727-6111**



TETHERING IS AGAINST THE LAW!

Effective January 1, 2013

